



## **COFFS ORCHID NEWS NOV, 2022 PUBLICATION OF THE COFFS HARBOUR ORCHID SOCIETY**

**P.O. Box 801, Coffs Harbour. NSW 2450**

**Email: [chorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:chorchidsociety@gmail.com)**

**Web: [www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au](http://www.coffsorchidsociety.org.au)**

### **1. EDITORIAL:**

Where did that first month of Spring go? I had so many plans for my orchids but little was ticked off the long list. Show season was in full swing and that seemed to occupy my time but now with the Shows finished for this year we can concentrate on repotting and getting ready for the Autumn Show next year. "But ", I hear you say "that is over six months away and there is plenty of time to prepare in the New Year". Spring is definitely here and temperatures are on the increase and many orchids are responding by growing new leaves, shoots and roots. Now is the time to repot especially those that have recently finished flowering. Most orchids respond to new potting mix , many may benefit by division if needed and certainly will respond to fertilizing and control of any diseases and pests. Spend some time now looking after your plants and they will respond with increased growth and those that are Autumn flowering may reward you on the Show bench. Many growers try to repot half of their collections each year so most orchids are repotted or topped up every two years.

Spring is also a good time to consider those plants that have not been performing. Space is one of your greatest assets in your green house and perhaps you need to be ruthless and sell the non-performers, or bin them or better still place them in a tree or elsewhere in your garden. However, if you think the plant has potential and deserves a second chance then perhaps you should consider the conditions under which it is growing. Does it have the correct light level for that species? Perhaps moving it may make all the difference. Even moving it vertically may change the level of light the plant receives. Also consider the humidity, air movement, the amount of water and fertilizer the plant has received and how healthy is its root system. Remember, a poor root system leads to fewer leaves or flowers. Treating the plants root system with "Anti-Rot" and a simple repot may be all it needs to begin to look healthy again.

When you are repotting don't forget to put the plant label back in the pot and note on the back of the label the date of repotting or if you keep a record of your orchids then note the repotting date in your data base for future reference. Check that your label is legible. Has the scientific name been altered? If so then you should correct it. Replace the whole label if it has started to deteriorate. Dick Cooper has written an amazing article about Orchid Labels and it is included in this edition of the newsletter. I recommend that every orchid grower should read it. Enjoy Spring and be kind to your orchids.

*Bob Southwell*

### **INDEX:**

1. Editorial
2. Calendar
3. WDOS Spring Show Results in pictures
4. Joke Time
5. Nov Meeting Agenda
6. Committee Report
7. Rosella Visit
8. Popular Vote
9. Facebook
10. Sponsors Spot— Coffs Harbour Produce
11. Events
12. Bark
13. Workshop
14. Annual Election
15. Feature Item
16. Financial Report
17. Minutes AGM 2021 and Oct,2022



**CHOS COMMITTEE 2022****CONTACT DETAILS**

<u>PRESIDENT:</u>	CAROLE DAVIS	026658 1354	carolenlarry@bigpond.com
<u>VICE PRESIDENT:</u>	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695 834	bssouthwell@bigpond.com
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	ANNIE HOUSTON	0410 628 662	anniehouston@bigpond.com
<u>TREASURER:</u>	PAIGE SINCLAIR	0427 591 901	paigesinclair@me.com
<u>COMMITTEE:</u>	ANN DEANS	0466 265 357	
	LEONIE EVERITT	0427 146 149	
	JUDITH WHITING	0438 187 028	
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	BOB SOUTHWELL	0417 695 834	bssouthwell@bigpond.com

**SPONSORS****SHEARWATER RESTAURANT**

Brekkie and Modern Australian dishes in a bright, upscale location with outdoor tables and lovely views over Coffs Creek. 321 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour.  
[www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au](http://www.shearwaterrestaurant.com.au) or Phone 6651 6053.

**COFFS HARBOUR PRODUCE**

Coffs Harbour Produce is at 26 June Street in Coffs. They carry a good range of fertilisers, insecticides and fungicides for orchids, as well as general garden needs. Phone 02 6652 2599.

**COFFS COAST MOTORS**

For new Mazda vehicles, also second-hand vehicles and ALL your servicing needs. Ring for an appointment 02 6652 3122 or visit 211 Pacific Highway, Coffs Harbour.

You won't be disappointed .

**TINONEE ORCHIDS**

Tinonee Orchids carries a wide variety of orchids and orchid growing supplies—coconut fibre, pots, etc. They provide quick delivery of orders. 02 6553 1012

[www.tinoneeorchids.com](http://www.tinoneeorchids.com)

**BRUCE HALL**

Bruce provides the raffle prizes for both the Autumn and Spring Shows.

**OFFICE WORKS**

Officeworks carries an excellent range covering all stationery needs, computers/monitors/printers, and associated technology. Smart phones and watches, plus furniture and workspace solutions, so for low prices on everyday essentials, it's all there at Home Base, Coffs Harbour. Phone 66 919100 or check out the full range at [officeworks.com.au](http://officeworks.com.au).

**CALENDAR, 2022**

- 31 Oct—Visit to Rosella Orchids
- 3 Nov— AGM and Elections— Guest Speaker Mal Ide "Growing Cymbidiums"
- 7 Nov - Nambucca VOS Meeting—Guest Speaker Ray Clement
- 13 Nov — Woolgoolga DOS Workshop—9am
- 20 Nov— Bunnings Fund Raising BBQ
- 1 Dec—Annual Prize and Awards Presentation — Shearwater Restaurant—5.30pm
- 2 Feb 2023— Feb Meeting—TBA
- 2 Mar 2023—March Meeting—TBA

Note: The Committee meets on Tuesday following the Monthly Meeting.

**CHOS BANK DETAILS**

**BSB No: 533-000**

**ACCOUNT No: 32817199**

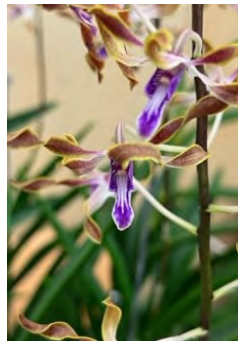


**(3) WOOLGOOLGA ORCHID SHOW RESULTS:**

This was a highly successful Show with a large number of plants being benched and good crowds in attendance. Well done to WDOS for another wonderful Show. The major winners are shown below.



**Grand Champion *Dendrobium canaliculatum*  
X *Den. Gloucester Sands*. Grown by Neil Campbell**



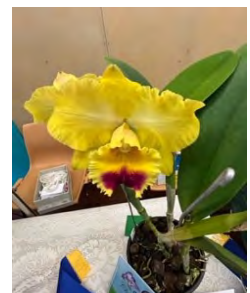
**Reserve Champion *Phalaenopsis aphrodite*. Grown by Bob Southwell**



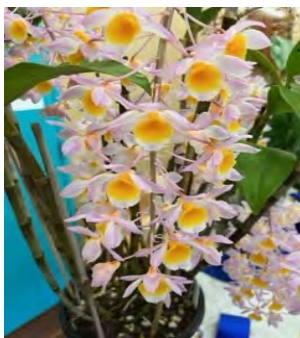
**Best Specimen—Mal Ide's  
*Dendrobium farmeri***



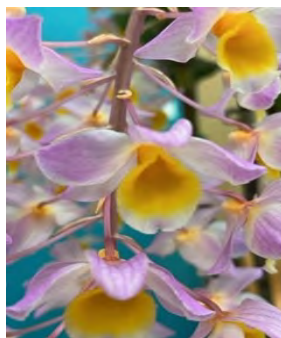
**Champion Phalaenopsis—Phal. Charming Crystal Water  
grown by Chris and Annette Hogan**



**Champ Laeliinae  
Blc. Golden Zelle  
Grown by Neil Campbell**



**Champion Dendrobium—*Dendrobium Mousemee*  
Grown by Rhonda Smith**



**Champion Oncidiinae *Wilsonara Habibi*  
Grown by Rhonda Smith**



**Champion  
Any Other  
Hybrid—  
Grown by  
Peter Gough**



**CHOS President, Carole Davis, presenting an Appreciation Certificate to Sindy Tate from Officeworks as our newest sponsor**



#### 4. JOKES:



**I went to the liquor store Friday afternoon on my bicycle, bought a bottle of Scotch and put it in the bicycle basket.**

**As I was about to leave, I thought to myself that if I fell off the bicycle, the bottle would break.**

**So I drank all the Scotch before I cycled home.**

**It turned out to be a very good decision, because I fell off my bicycle seven times on the way home**

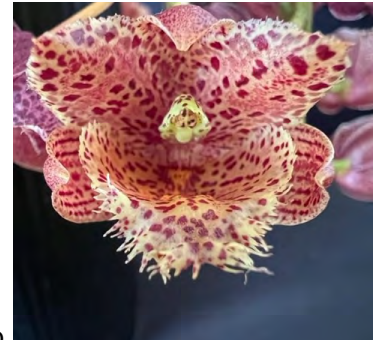
## **5. AGENDA FOR 2022 AGM—3rd November 2022:**

- ◆ Welcome to members and visitors
- ◆ Apologies
- ◆ Minutes of 2021 AGM – as attached to this newsletter
- ◆ President’s Annual Report—Carole Davis
- ◆ Annual Financial Reports – Paige Sinclair—distributed at meeting
- ◆ Motion: Moved that CHOS Annual Subscriptions remain the same in 2023 as for this year, ie. \$5 Juniors, \$10 Adults and \$15 Family.
- ◆ Election of Office Bearers: Returning Officer Gary Suter to take the chair.
- ◆ Positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 3 Committee Members
- ◆ Meeting closed.

Monthly Judges:

**HELEN SEIVER**

**PHIL PAYNE**



### **AGENDA NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING:**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of October Monthly Meeting – as attached to the Newsletter
4. Correspondence - Annie Houston
5. Treasurer’s Report—Paige Sinclair
6. Sponsor’s Spot – Coffs Harbour Produce
7. Presentations to New Members plus Show Trophies
8. Table Talk
9. Popular Vote – Bruce Hall/ Judith Whiting
10. Results of the Growing Competition—October Judging
11. Raffle – Judith Whiting
12. General Business: - WDOS Workshop—Woolgoolga PS Hall—Sunday 13th Nov - 9 to 3.30  
- CHOS Presentation and Awards Dinner—Shearwater 1st Dec—5.30pm  
- Growing Competition for 2023— Bob Southwell  
- Other General Business
13. Supper Break – 15 minutes
14. Guest Speaker Malcolm Ide—“Growing Cymbidiums”

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORT:

The September Committee Meeting was conducted at the North Coast Regional Botanic Gardens, Coffs Harbour, on Tuesday 18th Oct, 2022.

1. CHOS Logo design completed and colour versions tabled for consideration.
2. Bunnings BBQ—20th November. Assistance needed from members.
3. New supplies of bark have arrived. Contact Paige Sinclair for bark supplies
4. Presentation and Awards Dinner—Thursday 1st Dec at Shearwater. Details tabled . Members subsidised for \$25—two course dinner @ \$30 per person.
5. Seven new member applications were considered and approved.
6. 2023 Membership Subscriptions will be recommended to remain at the same amounts as for 2022. This motion to be presented to AGM for endorsement.
7. Visit to Rosella Orchids, South Grafton —Car Pool—Monday 31st October, 2022.
8. Review of successful Spring Show.
9. AGM set down for 3rd November. Committee Nominations close with Secretary by 7.30pm on Thursday 27th Oct, 22.
10. New Growing Competition for 2023. The competition plant to be *Vanda falcata* (was *Neofinetia*) (Japanese Wind Orchid). Nominations to be taken on 3rd Nov—cost @ \$10 each. Plants will be allocated at Feb, 2023 meeting and first judging will take place at March meeting.
11. New regulations received from Dept of Fair Trading. These will be implemented as required.
12. CHOS OrchidWiz program to be updated to version 9.0.

Next Committee Meeting will be held at the Botanic Gardens on Tuesday 8th Nov, 2022.

### A politician never lies.

A certain politician was visiting a remote little rural town in Australia and, addressing a meeting of locals, asked them what his Government, if elected, could do for them. "We have two big needs," said a spokesman for the townspeople. "First, we have a hospital but no doctor."

The politician whipped out his mobile, spoke for a while and then said, "I have sorted that out. A doctor will arrive here the day after we win Government. Now, what is your other need?"

The townspeople replied as one: "We have no mobile phone reception in this town".

## 7. CHOS VISIT TO ROSELLA ORCHIDS AT SOUTH GRAFTON:

**It is planned to again visit Rosella Orchids on Monday 31st October, 2022. The Nursery will be open to the public as part of the 2022 Jacaranda Festival. Members can either drive themselves and meet at the South Grafton Nursery or participate in a car pool which will depart from the Coffs Botanic Gardens car park. Interested members are asked to record their names by phoning Judith Whiting on 0438 187 028.**



**8. POPULAR VOTE AT THE OCT MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Congratulations to**  
**Helen Seiver for her amazing**  
***Dendrobium* Amphion Veil**  
**(Parents include a mixture of Australian species plus the PNG orchid**  
***Den. fuliginosum*)**



## 9. Coffs Harbour Orchid Society Facebook: By Paige Sinclair

October 2022 – Currently, the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society has 465 likes. This is up by 18 people from the last month. The image below shows a range of insights.



## 10. SPONSORS SPOT:

Coffs Harbour Produce is at 26 June Street in Coffs. They carry a good range of fertilisers, insecticides and fungicides for orchids, as well as general garden needs. Phone 02 6652 2599.

**SUPPORT THEM AS THEY SUPPORT US**

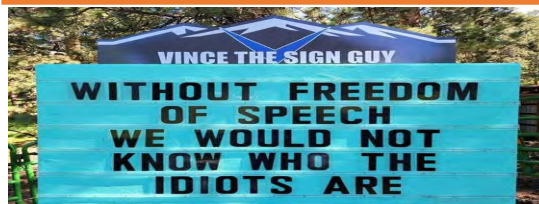
## 11. NORTH COAST ORCHID EVENTS:

Tweed Heads Show and Fair will be held at the Tweed Heads Cultural Centre over the weekend of 5th to 6th November, 2022. Fully judged show plus a large number of vendors selling a variety of orchids and hardware. A great orchid fair and always worth a visit.

Nambucca Valley Orchid Society— November meeting will feature Ray Clement as a Guest Speaker. Ray will talk on “Miniature Cymbidiums” and have plants and hardware for sale. The meeting will be held at the Senior Citizens Centre, Kent St, Nambucca Heads— Mon. 7th Nov from 7pm.



This 95 year old man was asked for his secret for living so long. He replied "Just don't die"



President Carole Davis presenting Rhonda Smith with her trophies for the Spring Show Grand Champion orchid. Congratulations Rhonda!

A captain notices a light in the distance, on a collision course with his ship. He turns on his signal lamp and sends, "Change your course, 10 degrees west." The light signals back, "Change yours, 10 degrees east." The captain gets a little annoyed. He signals, "I'm a US Navy captain. You must change your course, sir." The light signals back, "I'm a Seaman First Class. You must change your course, sir." Now the captain is mad. He signals, "I'm an aircraft carrier. I'm not changing my course." The light signals back a final message: "I'm a lighthouse. Your call."

## 12. BARK SUPPLIES FROM CHOS FOR THE CURRENT POTTING SEASON:

The Society stocks 35 litre bags of NZ Orchiata Bark selling at \$27 each. There are two main sizes – 9 to 12mm and 12 to 18mm. Some Super Grade is also available.

**Remember if you desire quality plants then always use quality potting mix.**

Contact Paige Sinclair on 0427 591 901 or paigesinclair@me.com.

### **13. WOOLGOOLGA DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY NOVEMBER ORCHID WORKSHOP—13TH NOV, 202**

I am excited to let you know our popular Woolgoolga District Orchid Society's FREE one day Orchid Workshop is on again Sunday, November 13. The Workshop is being held at the Woolgoolga Public School's Yeates Hall, 1-11 Scarborough Street, Woolgoolga, commencing at 9.00am, concluding at 3.30pm.

The keynote speaker this year is an orchid expert you simply can't afford to miss. He is Australia's much sought after and renowned international speaker, David Banks.

David has lectured extensively throughout Australasia, overseas and particularly America. He has written many articles for Orchids Australia, is an acclaimed orchid photographer and author, until recently was Editor of Australian Orchid Review.

Making a return appearance is Ray Clement of Tinonee Orchids who will be speaking on general orchid culture along with how to handle the unusual weather we have experienced this year. Also Gary Yong Gee, a prolific photographer of orchids. His foray into orchid photography began nearly 40 years ago resulting in a collection of over 100,000 orchid photos taken in situ on his extensive travels around the world.

Another interesting speaker whom we have been able to entice down here for the first time is John Roberts, an extremely well known orchid identity in South East Queensland with a wealth of knowledge about Australian native species.

A question and answer segment will enable you to ask specific questions. So if you are experiencing trouble growing a particular orchid, bring it along for an opportunity to ask the experts on stage for advice on how to overcome your problem.

FREE morning and afternoon tea will be available. Bring a picnic lunch to have on the school grounds or head down town for a bite to eat.

Enter our fantastic raffles and win some great prizes. There will even be a number of lucky seat prizes. And a large array of the speakers' orchid plants on sale.

Everyone is invited to bring along just two orchid plants in flower, to be judged by popular vote, for a chance to win \$50 first prize, \$30 second prize.

In addition, the four guest speakers will each select a plant they think worthy of a prize. The owner of that plant will receive a \$20 gift voucher.

The Workshop is open to everyone, simply arrive on the day. For further information please contact Jennifer Lock on 0447 323 761 or send an email – [jen.lock@bigpond.com](mailto:jen.lock@bigpond.com)



Hear 6 Expert World-Renowned Speakers  
FREE morning & afternoon tea  
Bring picnic lunch

**Free**

Woolgoolga District Orchid Society Inc.

**Orchid  
WORKSHOP**

Woolgoolga Public School  
Yeates Hall  
1-11 Scarborough St.

**Sunday November 13**  
**9.00am - 3.30pm**

Nurserymen's Orchid Plants on Sale  
Lots of Prizes to be Won!

### **14. CHOS ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS FOR THE 2023 COMMITTEE:**

Nominations are now open for all positions for the 2023 Committee of Management for the Coffs Harbour Orchid Society Inc. Nominations close with The Secretary at 7.30pm on 27th October, 2023. Positions that need to be filled are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Committee persons.

Nomination forms are available from Annie Houston or can be downloaded from the CHOS website (go to Forms). The Annual General Meeting will be held at the NCR Botanic Gardens on Thursday 3rd November, starting at 7.30pm. The AGM will be followed by the November General Meeting and the Guest Speaker will be Malcolm Ide who will talk on "Growing Cymbidiums".



## 15. FEATURE ARTICLE: Are the names on your orchid labels always correct?

By Dick Cooper

What's in a name? A lot if we are discussing orchids. We live in a period of great change - orchidology (the scientific study of orchids) is no different from other aspects of our world. The study of orchids is continually advancing our knowledge of these amazing plants. The last 20-25 years, for example, has witnessed many changes in orchid genera and species. If you have *Potinara*, *Sophronitis*, *Colmanara*, *Wilsonara* or *Maccllelanara* (to mention just a few names) in your collection then the names of these genera have been replaced. Species names have altered too, e.g. *Neofinetia falcata*, *Dendrochilum cobbianum*, *Bracisepalum densiflorum*. You can use the Orchid Society's Orchidwiz program or the sites mentioned in paragraph 6 below to find the new names (PS: don't rely on Google). Some of the old names were created by hybridists and these, along with some old genus names have changed as a result of scientific studies on the origins and relationships between species and genera by orchidologists (people who specialise in studying this branch of botany).

I know that some members will have *Neofinetia falcata* or *Dendrochilum cobbianum* in their collection but does anyone have *Bracisepalum densiflorum*? It is now *Coelogyne confertiflora* [this change does not appear in Vers. 8 of Orchidwiz, maybe it will be picked up in Vers. 9]. Usually, if the genus name changes, the species name remains (apart from a minor tweak to correct the latinized grammar), however, a complete change in the name of the last orchid was necessary because *densiflorum* is an old synonym for *Coel. tomentosa* and this prevents the use of the specific epithet (*densiflorum*) for another *Coelogyne*.

Many of the more recent changes result from DNA studies. When an accurate description of the DNA molecule's complex double-helical structure was first formulated in 1953 it proved to be one of the milestones in the history of science. It opened up a whole new field of genetics and we now know that DNA molecules are the building blocks for every cell within every living organism. They govern how each organism grows and how it's parts develop, survive and reproduce; they also reveal just how closely related all organisms are to one another and shows that defining species or genera based on morphological features (the old way) is not reliable. Geneticists use the amount of difference in DNA between species to assess relationships and determine how close or distant is the relationship.

Genetics and DNA are way too deep for me to properly comprehend but I do know that changes have resulted and more are likely. Although the names written on orchid labels today can be confusing for new and old growers alike, you should expect even more change as more DNA analyses occur.

For now, let's retrace some of the content of past articles and Paige's presentation on Nomenclature at the June 2022 meeting.

Paige Sinclair spoke about orchid names, the difference between species and hybrids, how each plant's name should be correctly written on labels and gave some reasons why knowing the correct name of an orchid was helpful. Paige also noted that the 'currently accepted' names of orchids could be accessed using two Registers maintained in the UK by either the Royal Horticultural Society or Royal Botanic Gardens. The International hybrid orchid register provides information on hybrid orchids. This is found on the RHS website (<https://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp>). For species orchids, the Royal Botanic Gardens recently decided to change from having 3 separate botanic portals to a single website "Plants of the World Online". Information about all species orchids can be found there (refer <https://powo.science.kew.org/>) including the latest taxonomy with accepted varietal names, photos, distribution maps, accepted synonyms and more. It is well worth a visit.

Paige explained that all orchids have a **Generic Name** and either a **Specific** or a **Grex Epithet** - the latter depends on whether they are a species or a hybrid. These combine to form that orchid's name. Species may also carry a varietal epithet (third term) which is preceded by the abbreviation var. (for variety) or subsp. (for subspecies). A 'special' orchid may also have a cultivar/clonal name which is highlighted within single quotes. A hybrid made using only two different species is referred to as a primary hybrid. A complex hybrid refers to a plant that has more than 2 species in its parentage. If awarded, that clone's award should be added. Below are 2 orchids showing this information: the 1st is a species, the 2nd is a hybrid -

*Dendrobium speciosum* var. *curvicaule*

AND

*Dendrobium* Dal's Dazzler

'Claire de Lune' FCC-ACE/AOC

'Barbara Kae' HCC/AOC

(an Australian native species)

(a complex hybrid)

*Photos of these two plants are shown on Page 10*



Orchids may be sold that don't have labels or are incorrectly named, also labels can be lost, become brittle and collapse or the names fade (caused by ultraviolet light) or the names can become outdated (as outlined above). Labelled orchids may even be incorrectly named when sold. I wrote about *Stanhopea tigrina* and *Stanhopea nigroviolacea* in the February 2021 issue of the CHOS Newsletter. Now, if you have a plant with either of these names then the correct specific name is *Stanhopea tigrina*. This Stanhopea has 2 varieties: *Stan. tigrina* var. *tigrina* and *Stan. tigrina* var. *nigroviolacea*. Most unnamed Stanhopeas are likely to be this species. Some nurseries and people still sell plants as *Stan. nigroviolacea* and other plants as *Stan. tigrina*. I guess it helps to be able to sell 2 plants to growers!

So, now we know that having the correct name for your orchids can indicate that a plant should be a species or a hybrid. That can help with accessing information about how best to grow it. This is important because not all orchids can be grown in the same way – even those within the same alliance or even the same genus. A correctly named plant enables one to ascertain ideal environmental conditions. It can also indicate expected colour(s), reveal parentage, likely quality, etc.

For hybrids, the name allows you to trace the parents and, with time and effort, the underlying species to provide additional cultural needs information. The starting point is to search the online International Orchid Register. Having a correct label and understanding the parentage will also give you an idea whether it would be a good plant for the show bench.

Often, serious growers won't buy plants lacking a label and some aim to only buy show bench quality plants by selecting plants based on a knowledge of their parentage. Why is it useful? Well, for example, 'Claire de Lune' shown above was bred from *Dendrobium speciosum* var. *curvicaule* 'Daylight Moon' FCC/AOC, the only other *Den. speciosum* to ever receive an FCC. Several breeders obtained 'Daylight Moon' pollen from the owner of 'Daylight Moon' and many excellent native hybrids (as well as inter- and intra-varietal speciosums) have resulted, indicating that the use of quality parents should result in good quality seedlings.

One way to ensure you don't lose your orchid's name is to record them in an exercise book or electronically. Some people use photos of the flowers and write the name on the photo. Paige stores the names of her orchids on her mobile phone: I store mine in the "My Plants" section of Orchidwiz.

After an orchid has been awarded or is otherwise considered to be of exceptional quality, growers (especially nurseries) often mericlone that plant. Most plants from commercial nurseries or garden centres are mericlones: they are **not** seedlings. Ideally, a plant's label should indicate that it is a mericlone, either by stating 'Mericlone' or 'M/C', but unfortunately many nurseries don't apply this practice.

Mericlone is a way to quickly mass produce a particular orchid. It requires specialised laboratory conditions. The young plants are created from tissue taken from the selected orchid. These plants are supposedly copies of the parent plant BUT if the process is faulty, the 'parent' plant is in less than top condition, the tissue comes from an old clone, etc. then weaknesses or variants can appear in the mericlone plants. Some claimed 'new releases' may actually be repeat clones of plants that are over 40 years old. Such factors and even your own particular growing conditions may adversely affect the genetic potential of the mericlone plant. [To find out more about mericlones check out this webpage - <https://www.aranbeemorchids.com.au/hello-orchid-growers-may-2021/>.]

That mericlones are not always identical is evident from photos I took of a number of C. Little Mermaid 'Janet' flowers at the Nambucca Orchid Show in April 2022. Here are some of different flowers that allegedly came from the same flasking:

*Continued on Page 11*

**ANNUAL PRIZE GIVING AND AWARDS DINNER:** This will be held on Thursday 1st December at Shearwater Restaurant, The Promenade, Coffs Harbour Jetty. A two course dinner will be subsidised by CHOS and will cost members and their partners \$30 per head. Refreshments at own cost. Please see Dinner Poster attached to this newsletter.

Ring or text Paige on 0427 591 901 to make a reservation for the dinner.

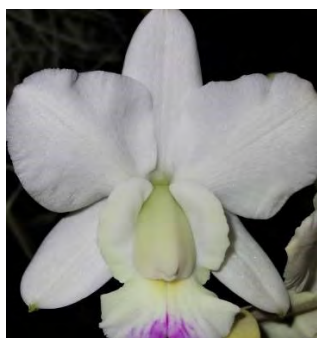


Clearly, based on their physical form and structure, they are the same orchid, The colour variation probably reflects the conditions under which each was grown but the variations in segment shape and pattering may indicate small differences in the underlying genetics passed to each plant during the mericlone process.

Of course, an orchid is likely to still flower even if you don't know its name. On the other hand, if you know what you have, it will be easier to grow it well. And, you can avoid buying more of that orchid - assuming you don't want more of the same.

Sometimes, however, an orchid is not what the label tells you. Some years back, I purchased a *Den. kingianum* from a reputable orchid nursery. The flowers turned out to be salmon-coloured and the shape indicated that it was likely a cross between *Den. kingianum* and the apricot-coloured *Den. fleckeri*, as did the bulbs. It was clearly a hybrid so even the best orchid nurseries make mistakes sometimes.

I also have a *C. Snow Blind 'Kenny'* which I obtained from Gordon Clarke some years ago. It produces 2-3 lovely flowers at least twice each year. Gordon acquired it as *C. walkeriana* 'Kenny' and won several prizes when entered as a species. However, in 2009, an investigation by the American Orchid Society concluded that 'Kenny' was actually a hybrid derived from crossing *C. Angelwalker* and *C. walkeriana* and, in 2015, genetic analysis verified that 'Kenny' was indeed a hybrid.



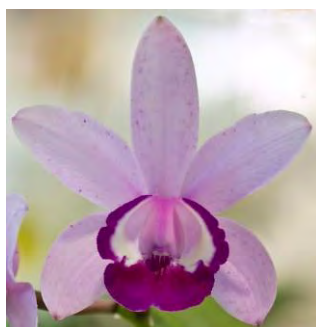
<= *C. Snow Blind 'Kenny'*

Sometimes benched plants don't look anything like what should be expected from the parent plants. One reason for this was explained by Ross Maidment (the owner of Aranbeem Orchids) at a NSW State Judges Meeting a few years back when he told us that we should be wary of orchids coming out of Asia because some Asian nurseries were unconcerned about correct names. Ross had found that some of these nurseries would happily provide a plant bearing the name of the orchid you wanted even though they don't grow that orchid!

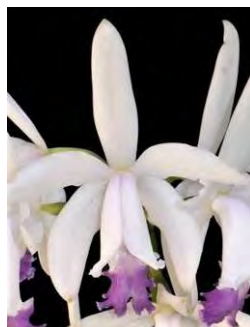
More recently, published articles have demonstrated that particular features displayed by some plants presented as species, such as forms of *Cattleya intermedia* and plants labelled as *Bulbophyllum rothschildianum* - are actually hybrids.

In the case of *C. intermedia*, it appears that genes from other *Cattleya* species (such as *C. walkeriana*, *C. nobilior*, *C. loddigessii*, *C. guttata* or *C. purpurata*) have been mixed into *C. intermedia*. The resultant prodigy have been treated as 'improved' forms of *C. intermedia*. However, among other differences in features, the open labellum of these forms does not reflect the tubular labellum expected of a species *C. intermedia*. These are now deemed to be hybrids.

*C. intermedia* var. *orlata*



*C. intermedia* (species)



*C. intermedia* var. *amethystina*



At the October 2022 Woolgoolga District OS Show, Neil Campbell (from Grafton) told me he had sold a number of plants he had owned of *C. intermedia* var. *orlata* because it was no longer considered to be a species. Some years back, Neil received an Award of Merit for one of his 'orlata' forms. Now, a Dendrobium owned by Neil was named as Champion of the WDOS. It was labelled as Den. *canaliculatum* x Gloucester Sands. Whilst he and I were talking about 'orlata', I mentioned that the registered name of his Dendrobium was "Den. Sandy Canal". Neil said he knew that, had recorded the name but hadn't bothered to change the label - the point is he had kept himself informed about current name changes.

Similarly, at the CHOS Autumn 2022 Show, questions were raised concerning plants benched in the *Bulbophyllum* species class. The issue: 'were these true species or hybrid plants known as *Bulb. Vindobona*?' See photos below - focus on the patternation on the dorsal sepal and petals as well as that on the underside of the column.

1. Labelled as *Bulb. rothschildianum*



2. *Bulb. Vindobona*



3. Labelled as *Bulb. ornatissimum*



Now, consider the patternation and labellum colour on the *Bulb. Rothschildnum* photos show below -



The markings on the dorsal sepal, petals and the underside of the column differ but since I am not an orchid taxonomist I remain uncertain whether flowers 1 and 3 are *Bulb. rothschildianum* or *Bulb. ornatissimum* or *Bulb. Vindobona*. Mean-time, the key point is that the labels may not be correct and, as an orchid judge, I need to investigate this issue further.

Here, I have mainly focussed on the morphological features of orchids (their physical form and external structure) and the importance of knowing and recording the correct names of the orchids in your collections, however, as mentioned, DNA studies are becoming increasingly involved in change in the classification of orchids. For example, recent DNA studies have resulted in *Phaius* being subsumed into *Calanthe* **AND** *Dendrochilum*, *Pholidota* (and several other genera) being reclassified as *Coelogyne*.

As I have tried to show, familiar orchid names have been, and will continue, to change. This is a key reason why you should keep good records of the names of each orchid in your collection. Here are a few more examples of changed names of plants that often appear on the show bench: *Cattleya bowringiana* is now known as *Guarianthe bowringiana*, *Sophronitis coccinea* is now *Cattleya coccinea* while *Sophronitis brevicaulis* has become *Cattleya harpophylla*, *Odontoglossum crispum* has become *Oncidium alexandra*, *Cochlioda noeziiana* is *Oncidium noeziianum*. You don't have to alter the name on the label now in any of your orchids just because the name changes but as I have suggested earlier do keep a record of the new name in an exercise book or electronically.

Such changes are not unique to orchids. As many people know I have been a keen birdwatcher most of my life and name changes are equally as frequent in the world of ornithology.

I thank Paige for providing a copy of her Nomenclature PowerPoint and notes.

Dick Cooper